

AMENDMENTS

In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, line 17 as follows:

Figures 8a to g d show alternative end-end fittings.

Please amend the paragraph on page 9 starting at line 20 as follows:

Figures 38a and b to c show an end-side fitting, incorporating a retaining ring with petals, designed to compress the host vessel wall between two fitting components.

Please amend the paragraph on page 9 starting at line 22 as follows:

Figures 39a to d c show an end-side fitting, incorporating a retaining ring with petals, designed to compress the host vessel wall between two fitting components.

Please amend the paragraph on page 9 starting at line 22 as follows:

Figures 39a to d c show an end-side fitting, incorporating a retaining ring with petals, designed to compress the host vessel wall between two fitting components.

Please add the following two paragraphs on page 10 before the “Detailed Description of Preferred Embodiments” as follows:

Figures 52a to d show another embodiment of an end-side fitting.

Figures 53a and b show another embodiment of an end-end fitting.

Please amend the paragraph on page 37 starting at line 5 as follows:

An alternative embodiment for performing an end-side anastomosis is shown in Figures 38a and b to c. The embodiment shown in Figures 38a and b to c includes a fitting 314 with a bypass graft 22 everted over the distal end of the fitting. A retaining housing 316 is used to secure the bypass graft to the fitting. This retaining housing permits radial expansion during placement over the bypass graft and fitting, yet has a preshaped memory to compress around the bypass graft and fitting thereby securing the bypass graft to the fitting. This retaining housing has petals 318 at its distal end, which compress into a low profile during delivery through a sheath and expand radially once deployed inside vessel 29. The

petals extend at an angle between 30 and 150 degrees from the axis of the retaining housing. Petals 318 can extend at an angle larger than 90 degrees from the retaining housing axis to increase the force exerted by the petals against the vessel wall when the retaining housing is retracted against the host vessel wall.

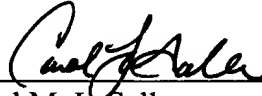
Please amend the paragraph on page 38 starting at line 6 as follows:

Figures 39a and b to c show another fitting 326 used to produce an end-side anastomosis. In this embodiment, the fitting incorporates petals 328 that collapse into a low profile during delivery through a sheath and extend radially outward once deployed into the vessel interior. In this embodiment, bypass graft 22 is advanced over the outside of fitting 326 and is secured using a retaining ring 328. Alternatively, the fitting is laminated between layers of bypass graft material. A compression ring 330 is advanced over the fitting, after deploying the fitting into the interior of the vessel, and is used to compress the vessel wall between the deployed petals of the fitting and a protrusion 332 on the fitting. This secures the fitting to the vessel wall. As shown in Figure 39c, the fittings that incorporate petals and the compression rings used to produce end-side anastomoses may be configured to produce an angle (A) between bypass graft 22 and the interior of the host vessel. Like petals 316, petals 328 of fitting 326 extend at an angle between 30 and 150 degrees from the axis of the fitting. The angle of the petals can be chosen to increase the force exerted by the petals against the vessel wall when the fitting is secured using compression ring 330.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number CNVG-004US1DIV

Respectfully submitted,
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